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A WONDERFUL DISCOVERY.

NO FURTHER USE FOR STEAM--WATER AS A MOTIVE POWER--TWO GALLONS SUFFICIENT FOR RUNNING A TRAIL TO SAN FRANCISCO AND BACK--A PRESSURE OF SEVEN THOUSAND POUNDS TO THE SQUARE INCH--THE INDUSTRIAL ECONOMY OF THE WORLD TO BE REVOLUTIONIZED.

[From the Philadelphia Press.]
According to the Philadelphia correspondent of the New York Graphic, there is now in process of construction in this city a machine which, if the claims of its inventor, John W. Keeley, prove to be within the bounds of its capabilities, will awaken the interest of every civilized creature upon the globe, and mark a new epoch in human progress. It has been constructed at considerable expense, and after nearly fourteen years of repeated trial and failure. This machine is nothing less than a contrivance for the application of an alleged new motor--a new principle of motive power as far superior to steam as steam was superior to wind and water power. What this principle is as yet remains a secret known only to the inventor, and as such would naturally be entitled to all the incredulity that has invariably attached to exorbitant claims of a similar character. There are, however, certain statements made concerning it which will soon be easily susceptible of proof or disproof, as well as certain names connected with it that will compel the respectful consideration of the public. A number of gentlemen in Philadelphia and Worcester have contributed money to further the construction of the machine, and in New York John J. Cisco, Israel Corse, Hatch, of the firm of Fisk & Hatch, and others are said to have advanced considerable sums of money on condition of receiving the exclusive right to dispose of the machine in certain prescribed territories. The new apparatus is so near completed that a model for deposit in the Patent Office at Washington has been begun and will soon be finished.

Mr. Keeley asserts that with only two gallons of water he would be able to draw a train of cars from Philadelphia to San Francisco and back again. The water would be used over and over, something as steam is utilized in a condensing engine. Incredible as this claim is, the inventor further declares that he obtains this vast power without the use of fuel, without the use of chemicals of any kind, and without the use of electricity or magnetic currents. A conclusion naturally arrived at when it is stated that no fuel is used is that the power is obtained by the decomposition of the water and the rapid disengagement of hydrogen and oxygen, or of both these gases. The assertion that no chemicals or electrical currents are used is supposed to be made to overthrow this inference. The use of force derived from the evolution of gases is no new idea, and the only reason that it has not been employed is the fact that the consumption of the necessary chemical substances has been found to be more costly than the consumption of coal in generating an equal amount of force by means of steam.

But the most marvelous statement is yet to be made. Mr. Keeley claims that in the machine now at his residence he has developed the enormous pressure of seven thousand pounds to the square inch! When it is remembered that steam boilers are subjected to a strain of from thirty

ty to perhaps two hundred pounds per square inch, according to the purposes they are constructed, a proper sense of this leap upward to seven thousand pounds will be realized. With this power at his command, unencumbered with a corresponding cost and weight of metal, man's complete conquest over nature would seem to be a thing of the near future.

A PRACTICAL TEST.

But before indulging in speculations upon the value of such a discovery, it is rather in order to consider what grounds there are for believing that it has really been made. These grounds so far, it must be confessed, consist principally of the statements of Mr. Keeley and his friends. But these statements are made by men who certainly do not lack intelligence, and in the face of the fact that if false the lapse of a few weeks will render them the laughing-stock of the country. On Tuesday, the 10th inst., there was a test of the apparatus in its unfinished state. This was made in the presence of ten gentlemen; among them were three experts in its shape was not revealed, but it was capable of holding about fourteen gallons of water. Reports in Philadelphia represent it to be spherical in its general contour. The inventor, in order to show that there were no chemicals in the water used, and that none had been enclosed in the machine, drew water from a hydrant near by, from which he himself first and afterwards all the others drank freely. Some of this hydrant water was put into the machine and shaken up. It was then allowed to drain out through a cock at the bottom, where glasses were again filled and all again drank. The water had not been changed in taste by its passage through the compartments of the apparatus. Then Mr. Keeley poured in a quantity of water from the hydrant and closed up the opening. "Instantaneously," to use the words of those present, "there was developed a pressure of seven thousand pounds." This pressure was measured by a safety-valve apparatus with a proper leverage. Of course no steam-engine, as at present constructed, could be made to record such a pressure. This was the test that was made. The enormous pressure is to be utilized by means of an engine with cylinder and piston, in all the essential respects like a steam engine. Some months ago, it is said, a small five-inch stroke engine was connected with the power generating apparatus and was operated with such extreme rapidity that, though it was stoutly bolted to a strong wooden bench, it shook itself loose. Mr. Keeley says the power generated is inexhaustible, and will be supplied as fast as it can be used in a cylinder. The fact that it has been made to operate, a steam engine makes it certain, of course, that the expansive force is due either to a vapor or a gas.

It was objected that this extreme pressure would render the machine dangerous, as liable to explode, but the answer made is that a much higher pressure may be put upon the walls of a small than on those of a large one, and that only a small machine will be needed in most cases, owing to the great vigor of the new motor. Besides the absence of a large boiler and accompanying conditions will allow the walls of the new machine to be made of any desired thickness and still give it the advantage of lightness and convenience over its clunker rival now in use. About a year ago W. W. Wood, Chief of the Bureau of Naval Engineering in Washington, visited Philadelphia and after witnessing the operation of an imperfect machine which Mr. Keeley was then at work upon, expressed himself as astonished at what he had seen. Charles H. Haswell, City Consulting Engineer of this city, had a similar experience, and with the same result about the same time. Chief Engineer Rutherford, who was at the recent test, is a firm friend of Mr. Keeley, and was among the first to aid him pecuniarily. Patents are to be taken out of every civilized country.

The unheard-of defense was lately set up by a young man who was sued for a breach of promise of marriage, that he broke off the engagement because the young lady was deficient in conversational powers. He couldn't make the jury, who were all married men, swallow any such nonsense, and they mulcted him in a verdict of a thousand pounds.

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